

And I might add that every other state that I worked in had this very same bill that we're trying to pass right now. They did have their employees take leave of absences without pay, without sick leave, without vacation time to assist at the time of a disaster. It was not just public employees, the factories and everybody else got their people off to be...to work in the disasters. However, they did have to have Red Cross training on their own, sometimes they got it on the job, but they usually have to have it on their own, aside from the disaster. It has nothing to do with the Goodwill, the Salvation Army, the churches or anything else, they do other things. The primary function of, not the primary function because the Red Cross has a lot of functions, but they are mandated by Congress to be there. And I do support this amendment, I think it's necessary that we have this. I think it's almost imperative that we have this bill in Nebraska. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Robak. Senator Haberman.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President, members of the body, you just heard that they don't get paid...they do get paid. Without loss of pay, vacation time, sick leave or earned overtime. So they do get paid if they go to this disaster. It does not say that they have to be called out by the federal government, doesn't say that. It doesn't say that it has to be of the magnitude that the federal government says we got a problem. Doesn't say that. It just says that if there is a disaster in Nebraska they can go, receive 15 days pay to go. Well, what if it's longer than 15 days? Or what if it's shorter than 15 days? What, do they get to go five days, three times, or three days, five times? We don't know, it doesn't say that. The Salvation Army people are trained, they are on the scene of disasters. They are trained, they are important, they do a good job. However, if you're a state employee and work with them or for them, you don't get paid, it's vacation leave or sick leave. So I say this is discrimination, I ask you not to vote for the amendment. Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Haberman. Senator Robak.

SENATOR ROBAK: Senator...Thank you, Madam (sic) Speaker, members of the body. Senator Schimek was asking me a question and it side tracked me for a minute. But I'll use my time and she can ask me that question, if she wants to. No, she's waiving off the question. Senator Haberman, if it's shorter